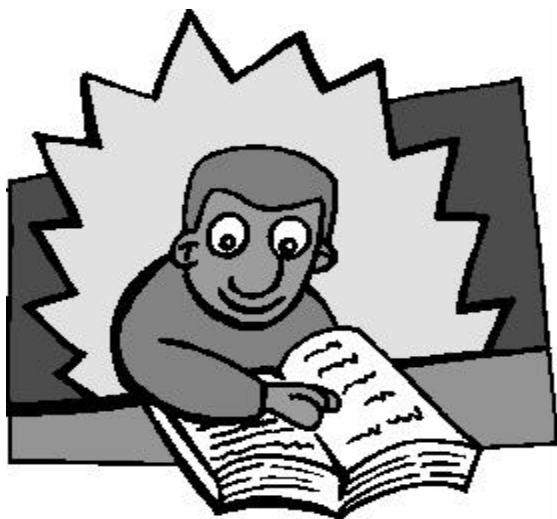


Operator Certification Exams Nov. 16



Your completed application and \$30 application fee (i.e., check made payable to "Cashier, IDEM") must be postmarked by October 2, 2000 and mailed to: IDEM Cashier, P.O. Box 7060, Indianapolis, IN 46207-7060. Applications postmarked after October 2, 2000 will **not** be considered for this examination.

**October 2
application
deadline!**

Pursuant to the Certification of Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators Law, Acts of 1967, as amended IC 13-18-11 and Rule 327 IAC 8-12, notice is hereby given that the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification Examinations for all industrial and municipal classes are scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 2000. Exact time and location will be announced in the letter of acceptance that will be sent to eligible applicants.

A study guide is available for each exam classification. Operators may request exam study packets or obtain further information by calling Christine Hightower, IDEM certification officer for wastewater treatment plant operators, at (800) 451-6027, press 0 and ask for ext. 2-8666, or (317) 232-8666. E-mail: chightow@dem.state.in.us. The results (pass or fail only) of the November 16, 2000 exams will be available by phone on Wednesday, November 22, 2000. 📞

Future Exam Dates

The Indiana Government Center South Conference Center in Indianapolis has been confirmed as the site for wastewater treatment plant operator certification exams for the dates listed. The exam date is determined

Exam Date	Postmark Deadline
May 10, 2001 →	March 26, 2001
Nov. 15, 2001 →	Oct. 1, 2001

by room availability at the conference center. Please note the exam dates and application postmark deadlines are subject to change. The 2002 exam dates have been requested, but not yet confirmed by conference center staff. 📞

Summer 2000

Section Chief Leaves for Washington, D.C.

The newly formed Operator Assistance and Pretreatment Section is again without a section chief. Claudio Ternieden, who was named section chief in February 2000, is now on loan to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's headquarters in Washington, D.C. He is working on implementing changes in the national pretreatment program. IDEM pretreatment coordinator Bill Blue was named acting section chief effective June 19, 2000. Applications for the vacant section chief position were accepted in early July, and the hiring process is currently underway. 📞



Photo Feature



Photo by Kevin Smith

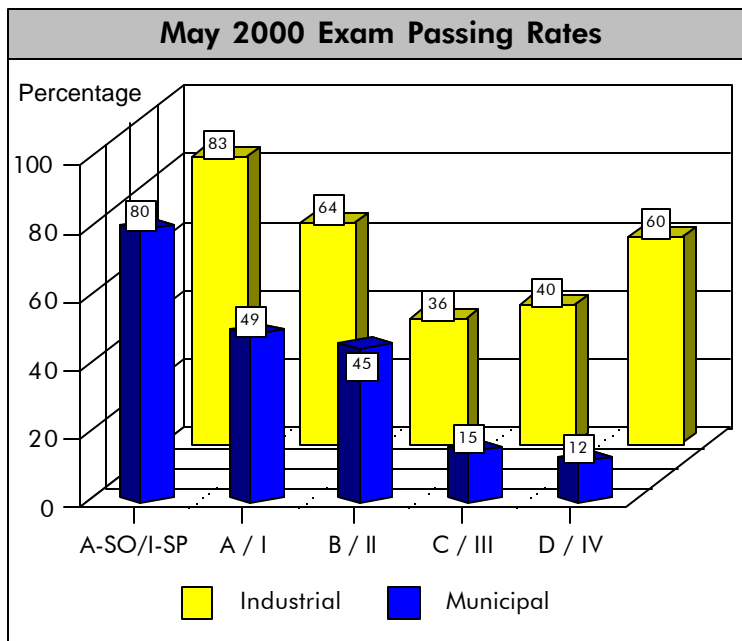
Certified wastewater treatment plant operator Scott Thompson shows IDEM technical assistance staff member Phil Preston a rotating biological contactor at the Union City Wastewater Treatment Plant.

If you would like to submit a wastewater treatment related photo for possible publication in *Operator Examiner*, please call Denise Szoeka at (800) 451-6027, press 0 and ask for ext. 3-5551 or (317) 233-5551.

Results of May 2000 Certification Exams

The Certification Examination was administered on May 11, 2000 at Indianapolis, Elkhart and Sellersburg. A total of 332 people took the exams. The overall passing rate for municipal and industrial combined was 44 percent. The examinations were graded electronically. In addition, all examinations with a score of 67, 68 or 69 were

graded by hand. If you have comments or questions, contact Christine Hightower at (800) 451-6027, press 0 and ask for ext. 2-8666, or (317) 232-8666. E-mail: chightow@dem.state.in.us



May 2000 Exam Final Passing Rates

		Number of Examinees
I-SP	80%	5
I	49%	79
II	45%	67
III	15%	33
IV	12%	25
A-SO	83%	12
A	64%	33
B	36%	33
C	40%	20
D	60%	25
Overall Passing Rate:		44%
Total Examinees:		332

Indiana Operators

The totals below include operators whose licenses have expired but are still within the three year grace period during which their license may be renewed without retesting.

Total Numbers of Operators by Class

	Licensed & Renewable
I-SP	24
I	651
II	561
III	238
IV	376
Subtotal Municipal:	1,850
A-SO	116
A	374
B	356
C	239
D	348
Subtotal Industrial:	1,433
Total:	3,283



Office of Water Management

- Staff contacts
- Phone numbers
- E-mail addresses

Receptionist

Pam Stelzner (pstelzne@dem.state.in.us) (317) 232-8670

File Room

Steve Vaughn (svaughn@dem.state.in.us) (317) 232-8667

Discharge Monitoring Reports & Monthly Reports of Operation

Chief, Data Management Section

Charles Dunn (cdunn@dem.state.in.us) (317) 233-9917

Permits

Chief, NPDES Municipal Section

Catherine Hess (chess@dem.state.in.us) (317) 232-8704

Chief, NPDES Industrial Section

Steve Roush (sroush@dem.state.in.us) (317) 232-8706

Pretreatment

Bill Blue (bblue@dem.state.in.us) (317) 232-8729

Drinking Water Certification

Fax Machine (317) 308-3339

Jackie Tyler (jtyler@dem.state.in.us) (317) 308-3307

Ruby (Keslar) Safewright (rkeslar@dem.state.in.us) ... (317) 308-3305

Wastewater Certification Rule Revision

In March 2000, Claudio Ternieden invited roughly twenty-five operators from the External Certification Workgroup mailing list to meet and discuss a specific issue regarding the rule revision. We apologize for the short notice given for this meeting.

As many of you know, one objective of first noticing certification rule 327 IAC 8-12 was to separate the wastewater certification rule from the drinking water certification rule. Due to new U.S. Environmental Protection Agency drinking water certification regulations, IDEM drinking water staff members were

required to have a revised rule in place by February 2001. Key wastewater staff members were reassigned to duties related to the Anderson fish kill for several months. Consequently, the wastewater certification rule revision was not ready to proceed to second notice with the drinking water rule revision.

Unfortunately, when the drinking water branch proceeded to second notice their rule revision, all wastewater certification language was struck from the rule. This was the subject of the March 22 meeting. It was decided that the best course of

action would be to simply move the wastewater language, **without changes**, to another rule (tentatively 327 IAC 5-22) at this time. Once this process is completed, IDEM will immediately open the wastewater certification rule and proceed with the rule revision process.

IDEM remains committed to revising the wastewater certification rule and

would like to thank all wastewater operators for their steadfast commitment to the certification program. If you have comments or questions, please call Christine Hightower at (800) 451-6027, press 0 and ask for ext. 2-8666, or (317) 232-8666. E-mail: chightow@dem.state.in.us ♦

Operator Assistance and Pretreatment Section staff members at the Indiana Department of Environmental Management are aware of the importance of the grandfathering of certifications now that the certification rule revision is progressing. We would like to notify all certified operators that IDEM plans to convert licenses in good standing into an equivalent license(s) of any new classification system that may be adopted. This license conversion would occur regardless of the current employment status of the operator.

Industrial Top Scorers

Class A-SO (tie)

James O. Guritz, Crown Point
Lonnie G. Nelson, Brazil
Mark E. Parr, Leavenworth

Class A (tie)

Clinton J. Gines, Elwood
Daniel A. VanBibber, Gentryville

Class B

Douglas K. Parker, Bloomington

Class C

Billy M. Benningfield, Elizabeth

Class D

Eugene J. Arnold, Hebron

Municipal Top Scorers

Class I-SP

Robert B. Stolz, Evansville

Class I

Edward Dewig, Newburgh

Class II

William W. Goodrich, Brazil

Class III (tie)

David N. Donathen, South Bend
Troy L. Wheeler, Eckerty

Class IV

Robert L. Gertzen, Jr., Valparaiso

Wastewater Publications



on the Web

Certification

- ★ Operator Certification Program Overview
- ★ Operator Assistance and Pretreatment Section
- ★ Indiana Wastewater Operator Certification Process
- ★ Operator Examiner Newsletter

Continuing Education

- ★ Continuing Education Information
- ★ Continuing Education Course List

Exam Preparation

- ★ List of Study References for the Exams
- ★ Wastewater Operator Certification Study Guides

Forms, Applications and Instructions

- ★ Instructions and application for Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification Exam
- ★ Application for Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator-In-Training Certification
- ★ Application for Approval of Training for Continuing Education
- ★ Water/Wastewater Operator Certification Continuing Education Credit Report Form

www.state.in.us/idem/owm/facmang/oats/index.html

45 Respond to Survey

Forty-five wastewater treatment professionals responded to the e-mail survey in the previous Operator Examiner. They prefer receiving IDEM wastewater certification information by e-mail rather than U.S. Mail. IDEM thanks those who responded and invites others to sign on by sending an e-mail to chightow@dem.state.in.us. Be sure to indicate your e-mail address and license number(s). ♦

The Pretreatment Group, which has recently been joined with the Operator Assistance and Training Section to form Operator Assistance and Pretreatment Section, is scheduled to make additional changes which will have great impact on the state's pretreatment program. The state's pretreatment regulation, 327 IAC 5-11 through 327 IAC 5-15, is being rewritten and will be replaced with 327 IAC 5-16 through 327 IAC 5-21. While the regulatory citation will be changed, along with much of the language, the purpose of the regulation is to update Indiana rules in order to receive state delegation for pretreatment. As a result, the new regulation is functionally the equivalent of the existing regulation.

The regulation went to the Water Pollution Control Board on July 12 and was approved. It is receiving final review at the Attorney General's Office, and then it will go to the Governor for signature. The rule will

then become part of a package to be sent to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, requesting pretreatment delegation. After delegation has been received, IDEM's Office of Water Management plans to make significant changes in the statewide pretreatment program.

The program is about 15 years old. In that period of time, no new pretreatment cities have been created. The agency made the decision at the start of the program that industry located outside of the pretreatment cities would be permitted by the state. This is now known as the hybrid program and has grown to the point that approximately 175 facilities have been permitted, and some cities have as many as 9 or 10 industries in the program. The long-term plan is for the individual hybrid programs to be upgraded into pretreatment programs. Cities with current hybrid programs will be required to develop pretreatment programs. IDEM will issue

permits only when a categorical industry moves to a city that does not have a program. At the time a hybrid permit is issued, the town's NPDES permit will be modified to require the creation of a pretreatment program. When the city's pretreatment program is in place, the city will assume control of the discharger. For more information, call Bill Blue at (800) 451-6027, press 0 and ask for ext. 2-8729 or (317) 232-8729. 📞

Applications

for the November 16, 2000 operator certification exam must be **postmarked by Monday, October 2.** Late applications will not be considered for the November exam.

Address Service Requested

65-42 OC

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
Office of Water Management
Operator Assistance and Pretreatment Section
P.O. Box 6015, Indianapolis, IN 46206-6015

PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 462
Permit No. 803